SHIRE OAK ACADEMY
TURNING POTENTIAL INTO EXCELLENCE

MERCIAN

2026.05.01 Ref CXC/VXM

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to inform you of upcoming changes to our school uniform, which will come into effect from September 2026.

As part of this process, we have carried out consultations with both students and parents to ensure that any changes reflect the views of our school community. Feedback highlighted the importance of a uniform that is smart, comfortable, and affordable, while maintaining high standards and a strong sense of identity. These views have helped shape the updated uniform.

Following this consultation, we will be introducing a new Shire Oak Academy uniform from September 2026.

Details of the new uniform are outlined below.

Shire Oak Academy Uniform from September 2026

Uniform Expectations

- Navy Shire Oak V-neck jumper with gold trim
- Navy Shire Oak Polo T-shirt with the school embroidered badge
- Grey plain school trousers or a grey pleated skirt (below mid-thigh in length and should not be rolled up or tied at the back to make them shorter) with black tights.
- Plain black socks
- Footwear must be entirely black, flat-heeled, and leather or leather-look:
    - No logos, writing, or silver tags
    - Only black laces are allowed.
    - Plain, ankle-height black boots are permitted.
    - Full leather-style sports shoes (e.g. all-black Air Force 1s) are acceptable.
    - High-top trainers are not allowed.

Outdoor Clothing

- A dark, waterproof coat (No denim jackets, leather jackets, hoodies or zip up hoodies)
- No hoods, hats, caps, durags, balaclavas, or snoods on school site
- Dark school bag, tote bags are acceptable if they can fit in A4 books and PE kit

PE Kit Expectations

- Shire Oak PE Polo shirt with embroidered badge
- Optional PE Midlayer
- Plain navy PE bottoms (shorts, joggers or sports leggings)
- Navy football socks and short white socks
- Trainers

Additional PE Equipment

- Football boots and shin pads (required for football)
- Small Towel (in case of severe weather)

To support families with this transition and to reduce the overall cost of moving to the new uniform, **the school will be purchasing the three branded items for each student for this year only**. This ensures that all students begin September with the key elements of the new uniform, while keeping additional costs for families to a minimum. The items the school will provide are as followed:

- Navy Shire Oak V-neck jumper with gold trim
- Navy Shire Oak Polo T-shirt with the school embroidered badge
- Shire Oak PE Polo shirt with embroidered badge

To complement the items provided, parents and carers are asked to supply grey trousers or a grey, knee-length pleated skirt, along with plain navy PE bottoms (shorts, joggers, or sports leggings). A branded midlayer for PE is also available as an optional item. All uniform must be clearly labelled.

The items provided by the school will be issued directly to students. Clive Mark will visit the school on two separate days during the summer term to measure students for the three branded items. A few weeks later, these items will be delivered to the school and distributed for students to take home. Students will be measured generously; however, if any items no longer fit by the end of the summer holidays, parents or carers may return unworn items with labels still attached to the store for an exchange. If your child is absent on these days, it is expected that parents or carers arrange a fitting at the shop.

Any additional uniform items or replacements can be purchased from our official supplier, Clive Mark. Items such as grey skirts and trousers can be purchased from a range of high street retailers and supermarkets. For convenience, we have included a selection of example items at the end of this letter to support you when purchasing suitable uniform.

Clive Mark – Units 6 Saddlers Centre, 1 Park Street, Walsall, WS1 1YS
Telephone: 01922 622 556
Website: www.clivemark.co.uk

If you require any support with uniform, please contact the school directly and we will do our best to advise and support you.

The uniform change applies to current students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 only. Students joining Year 7 in September 2026, as well as any mid-year admissions, will follow the standard uniform purchasing process.

We do expect all students to wear the correct uniform each day and take pride in their appearance. Where students do not meet these expectations, the school will respond in line with our behaviour and uniform policy. This may include being asked to correct the uniform, borrowing replacement items where available, time in our reset room, or parents/carers being contacted to bring appropriate uniform into school.

As we approach the end of the academic year, we will begin phasing out items from the current uniform and will share clear guidance and updates over the coming weeks on how this will look in practice.

Thank you for your continued support as we introduce these changes.

Yours sincerely,

C. Cordon

Deputy Headteacher

✅ Correct Uniform	❌ Not Acceptable
 Navy Shire Oak V-neck jumper with gold trim and embroidered badge. This must not be tucked into the skirt.	 Plain navy round neck jumper/sweatshirt with no gold trim/embroidered badge.
 Navy Shire Oak Polo T-shirt with the school embroidered badge.	 Plain navy polo.
 Pleated grey skirt (below mid-thigh in length and should not be rolled up or tied at the back to make them shorter) with black tights. Where longer skirts are worn, they should not be below the ankle and should be worn with black tights.	 Tight Grey short skirt /Black skirts with socks. No skirts without tights throughout the academic year.
 Plain grey, tailored school trousers.	 No tight skinny trouser, no grey jersey trouser, no flare trousers, no black trousers, no bell bottoms.

Black socks or grey socks under trousers.

No grey or black leggings.

Footwear must be entirely black, flat-heeled, and leather or leather-look. Plain, ankle-height black boots are permitted. Full leather-style sports shoes (e.g. all-black Air Force 1s) are acceptable.

No logos, writing, or silver tags. Only black laces are allowed. High-top trainers are not allowed.

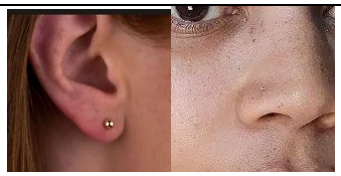
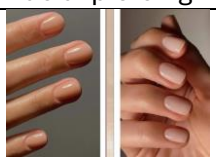
Outdoor coats should be dark and plain.

No denim jackets, leather jackets, hoodies or zip up hoodies.

Dark school bag, tote bags are acceptable if they can fit in A4 books and PE kit.

No hoods, hats, durags, balaclavas, or snoods on school site.

 Shire Oak PE Polo shirt with embroidered badge.	 Branded or plain t-shirts.
 Optional Shire Oak PE Midlayer with embroidered badge.	 No hoodies or branded jumpers.
 Plain navy PE bottoms (shorts, joggers, or sports Lycra leggings).	 No cycling shorts or Nike pros, no brands, and no bell bottom leggings.
Navy football socks and short white socks.	

General appearance	
 One pair of ear studs only. Clear retainers are acceptable to replace facial piercing.	 No facial piercings or hooped earrings.
 Natural looking short nails.	 No bright long, acrylic nails.
 Natural coloured hair.	 No coloured hair – no pinks, blues, greens, purples etc.
 Natural looking eye lashes.	 No false eyelashes.
No make up in year 7-9 Discrete make up in year 10-11	

Example Retailers – Grey Pleated Skirts

Buy Grey Longer Length Regular Waist 2 Pack Pleated School Skirts (3-16yrs) from the Next UK online shop

Girls' Permanent Pleats School Skirt (2-16 Yrs) | M&S | M&S

2 Pack Girls Grey Pleated Long Length School Skirts (3-16yrs) - Age 4 Years

Girls Grey Plus Fit Pleated School Skirt 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA

Grey Permanent Pleat Girls School Skirt 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA

F&F School Girls 2-Pack Pleated Skirts in Grey - Tesco Groceries

Example Retailers – Grey Girls' Trousers

Buy Grey Plain Front School Trousers (3-18yrs) from the Next UK online shop

2 Pack Girls' Slim Leg School Trousers (2-18 Yrs) | M&S | M&S

Black Slim Leg Woven Girls School Trousers 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA

Example Retailers – Grey Boys' Trousers

Buy Grey Regular Waist Straight Leg School Trousers (3-17yrs) from the Next UK online shop

2 Pack Boys' Regular Leg School Trousers (2-18 Yrs) | M&S | M&S

Grey Regular Leg Boys School Trousers 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA